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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/078,574 | 02/20/2002 | Thomas F. Beane | | 5072 |

7590 06/03/2003

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EXAMINER

HOOK, JAMES F

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
| | 3752 |

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Application No. 10/078,574 | Applicant(s) Beane |
| Examiner James F. Hook | Art Unit 3752 |



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

- a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

- a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

- 15) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

It is noted that claim 2 recites “securing the fuel pump hose to the fuel pump hose” which is considered impossible, however, based upon the specification it is believed that applicant intends to be claiming connecting the fuel hose cover to the fuel hose and that is how it will be considered when applying art to the claim below. It is recommended that applicant correct the claim appropriately in any subsequent amendment.

Drawings

1. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.
2. Figure 1 is believed to only show that which is old and known and therefore should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.
3. Color photographs and color drawings are acceptable only for examination purposes unless a petition filed under 37 CFR 1.84(a)(2) is granted permitting their use as acceptable drawings. In the event that applicant wishes to use the drawings currently on file as acceptable drawings, a petition must be filed for acceptance of the color photographs or color drawings as acceptable drawings. Any such petition must be accompanied by the appropriate fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(h), three sets of color drawings or color photographs, as appropriate, and an

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amendment to the first paragraph of the brief description of the drawings section of the specification which states:

The patent or application file contains at least one drawing executed in color. Copies of this patent or patent application publication with color drawing(s) will be provided by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office upon request and payment of the necessary fee.

Color photographs will be accepted if the conditions for accepting color drawings have been satisfied. Currently the drawing is too dark to be seen.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Beane. The patent to Beane discloses the recited hose cover for discharging electrostatic charges accumulating from use of the hose comprising a tubular knitted yarn having a ground yarn surface and terry loops 22 extending from the ground yarn surface, a carbon strand 20 knitted with the yarn and in the ground surface and terry loops for conducting and dissipating electrostatic charges, the terry loops provide a cushioning effect to resist damage and snagging to avoid possible explosions, there are means at the ends which tie the cover to the hose at its ends, the cover is snag resistant, reusable, washable, has a diameter covering the range of 1 to 1 3/4 inches,

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the carbon strand is within the proper denier, and contains the proper number of filaments. The use of the hose cover for a fuel hose is merely intended use.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grantham in view of Beane. The patent to Grantham discloses the recited fuel hose 12, provided with a fabric cover layer formed of woven layer of filaments 52 provided with a conductive metal filament 48 for conducting electrical charge to dissipate static charge, where carbon is used also for this purpose and also assists in attaching the fabric layer to the hose. The patent to Grantham discloses all of the recited structure with the exception of forming the fabric layer with terry loops and forming the conductive filament of carbon fiber. The patent to Beane discloses the structure set forth above. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the fabric cover in Grantham by forming the layer with terry loops for added protection from shock due to the inherent properties of the extra padding terry loops would provide, and to form the conductive

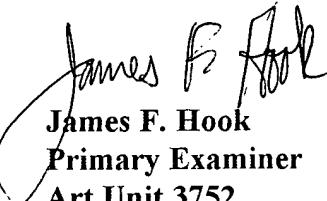
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filament of a carbon fiber as suggested by Beane as such would provide for a more flexible hose than one that utilized a stiffer metal conductive wire.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The patents to Phillips, Laybourn, Galigan, Ford, Weil, Hestetune, DeMeyer (115 and 575), and Radlinger disclosing state of the art tubes and covers.
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James Hook whose telephone number is (703) 308-2913.

J. Hook
June 2, 2003



James F. Hook
Primary Examiner
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